



SHELBURNE COUNTY

BEACH

Getaway Guide

WELCOME TO SHELBURNE COUNTY: YOUR COASTAL ESCAPE AWAITS!

Nestled on the pristine coastline of Nova Scotia, Shelburne County is home to some of the most breathtaking beaches on Canada's East Coast. Whether you're seeking tranquil shorelines to relax, scenic trails for exploration, or the perfect spot to immerse yourself in nature's beauty, our beaches offer something for everyone.

From powdery white sands and turquoise waters to rugged, rocky inlets teeming with wildlife, Shelburne County's beaches are as diverse as they are stunning. Here, you can stroll along the shore at sunrise, breathe in the salty ocean air, and experience the true essence of coastal living.

This guide will take you on a journey through our top beach destinations, providing insider tips, must-see landmarks, and helpful information to make your visit unforgettable. So, pack your sunscreen, grab your camera, and get ready to discover why Shelburne County is the ultimate beach getaway!

exploreshelburnecounty.com

BEACH STEWARDSHIP

Thank you for sharing our beaches!

Caring for beaches and dunes, cultivating respect for beach users and wildlife, nurturing biodiversity, and encouraging wise stewardship ensure that Shelburne County beaches will continue to be healthy places for people and wildlife far into the future.

You can help by:

- respecting signs and signed areas marking sensitive habitat
- using designated access points
- keeping motorized vehicles away
- keeping pets leashed
- taking trash out - leaving only footprints.



From April to August, many Shelburne County beaches provide nesting habitat for endangered Piping Plover families. Watch for these signs and walk on the wet sand to avoid crushing eggs or chicks.

Shelburne County beaches and dunes are home to numerous plants and wildlife. Beach pea, bayberry, wild roses, and American dune grass help stabilize dunes and provide shelter and food for birds and small mammals.



It's not unusual to see deer or raccoon tracks along the wet sand or hear the call of Willets, which nest in nearby salt marshes.

From late July to October, visit Sand Hills, Daniel's Head and its adjacent tidal flats, Hawk Beach, and the viewing area at Hawk Flats during the annual fall shorebird migration

Motorized vehicles are not permitted on Nova Scotia beaches.

Report problems to NS Department of Natural Resources
1-800-565-2224

Learn more about Plover conservation facebook.com/ploverconservation



THE HAWK BEACH

154 New Road, The Hawk, Cape Sable Island

The Hawk Beach, sculpted by the ocean over thousands of years, unveils a remarkable drowned forest thought to be 1,500 years old. In the distance, the iconic Cape Light—the tallest lighthouse in the Maritimes—stands watch over the shoreline. Visit this stunning natural treasure on Nova Scotia's southernmost tip, Cape Sable Island. Pack a picnic, grab your camera, and immerse yourself in the beauty and history of this extraordinary destination.

Amenities:

- Seasonal port-a-potty
- Beach Toy Library

Activities:

- Walking
- Photography
- Birdwatching
- Picnicking

Parking:

- Roadside parking

Access:

- Path to the beach

GPS Coordinates:

- Latitude: 43.415975
- Longitude: -65.614321



Did You Know?

The Hawk Beach is part of the Eastern Cape Sable Island Important Bird Area, making it a haven for bird enthusiasts. For more information, visit ibacanada.ca.



DANIEL'S HEAD BEACH

144 Daniels Head Road, South Side, Cape Sable Island

Walk for miles along this stunning white sand beach, a perfect backdrop for your special day or a peaceful retreat. Whether you're collecting sea glass, taking a refreshing swim, or simply unwinding to the sound of the waves, this beach has something for everyone.

Amenities:

- Seasonal port-a-potty
- Change Room
- Beach Toy Library

Activities:

- Walking
- Photography
- Birdwatching
- Picnicking

Parking:

- Parking Lot

Access:

- Boardwalk to the beach

GPS Coordinates:

- Latitude: 43.513249
- Longitude: -65.608507



Did You Know?

A birding enthusiast's paradise, Daniel's Head Beach is a key stopover for migrating shorebirds in late summer and fall. In winter, keep an eye out for snowy owls and brant geese, along with the occasional nor'easter, creating a dramatic setting to watch the powerful surf roll in.



STONEY ISLAND BEACH

125 Kenney Road, Stoney Island, Cape Sable Island

One of the most popular beaches on Cape Sable Island, Stoney Island Beach is a favorite summer destination where you'll often find fun family activities happening throughout the season. As you stroll along the shore, you'll feel the warm, silvery powdered sand between your toes, making it an ideal spot for swimming, surfing, walking, picnicking, or simply unwinding by the ocean. Keep an eye out—you may even find beautiful pieces of beach glass along the way!

Amenities:

- Washrooms/Changeroom
- Lifeguards (July & August)
- Mobi-Mats (accessible)
- Beach Toy Library

Activities:

- Walking
- Family Fun
- Birdwatching
- Swimming, kayaking

Parking:

- Parking Lot

Access:

- Path to the beach
- Mobi-Mats (June-October)

GPS Coordinates:

- Latitude: 43.463583
- Longitude: -65.577334



Did You Know?

This is one of our most accessible beaches, with Mobi-Mats installed from June to October, ensuring easy access for everyone. For added peace of mind, Nova Scotia Lifeguard Services are on duty 7 days a week during July and August, from 10 AM to 6 PM.



NORTH EAST POINT BEACH



4

33 McGray Avenue, North East Point, Cape Sable Island

Located just across the Causeway from the center of Barrington Passage, North East Point Beach is a local hot spot for swimming, sunbathing, and playing in the soft white sand. This lively beach offers something for everyone—stroll along the scenic boardwalk, enjoy a picnic in the gazebo, or take in the picturesque views of sailboats and dories drifting across the bay. Whether you're looking to relax or explore, this beautiful beach is the perfect summer destination!

Amenities:

- Seasonal port-a-potty
- Picnic Tables
- Gazebo
- Beach Toy Library
- Floating dock

Activities:

- Walking
- Photography
- Swimming, kayaking
- Picnicking

Parking:

- Paved parking lot

Access:

- Path to the beach

GPS Coordinates:

- Latitude: 43.513249
- Longitude: -65.608507



Did You Know?

The Cape Sable Island Causeway was completed in 1949, replacing the coastal ferry service that once linked Cape Sable Island to mainland Nova Scotia. Today, it provides easy access to the stunning beaches and vibrant communities of the island!



SAND HILLS PROVINCIAL PARK BEACH

28 Sandhills Beach Road, HWY 309 Villagedale

Discover one of Nova Scotia's most breathtaking beaches at Sand Hills Beach Provincial Park.

Backed by a spectacular sand dune system, this beach is a paradise for explorers. Whether you're beachcombing, searching for sand dollars, clamming (in season), kite flying, or simply enjoying the fresh sea air, there's something for everyone.

Bring the family and spend the day—pack a picnic and relax in the park's spacious picnic area while taking in the beautiful coastal views.

Amenities:

- Change Houses, picnic area, playing field, outdoor toilets, shower & water available when park is open

Activities:

- Walking
- Swimming
- Surfing
- Picnicking

Parking:

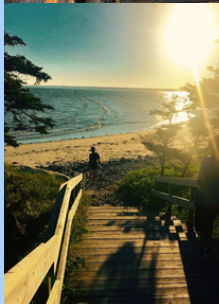
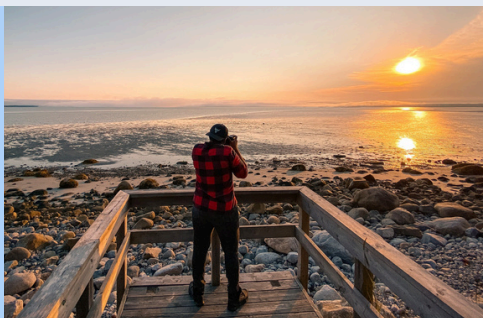
- Parking Lot

Access:

- Groomed path, boardwalks & stairs

GPS Coordinates:

- Latitude: 43.530850
- Longitude: -65.554485



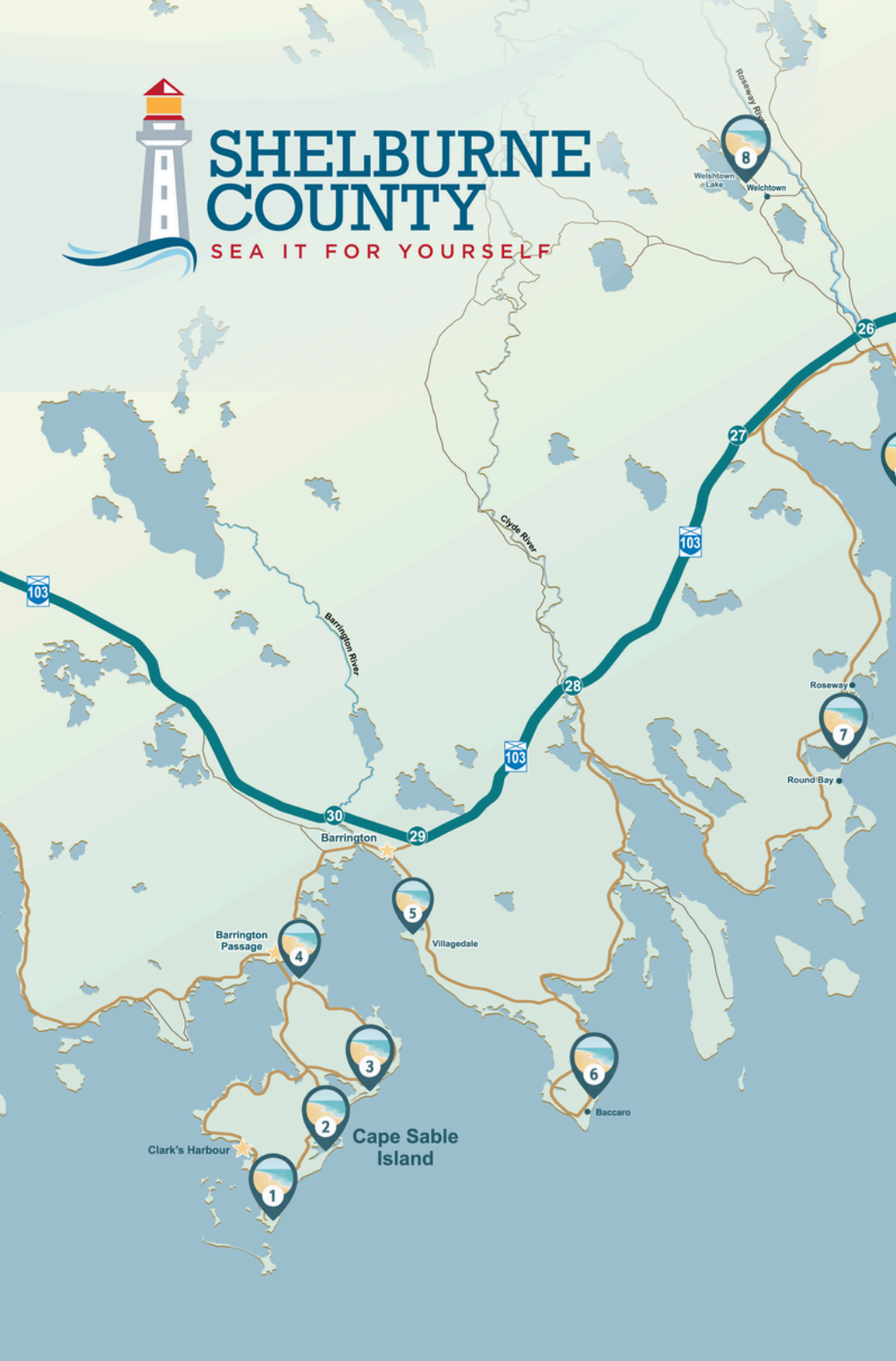
Did You Know?

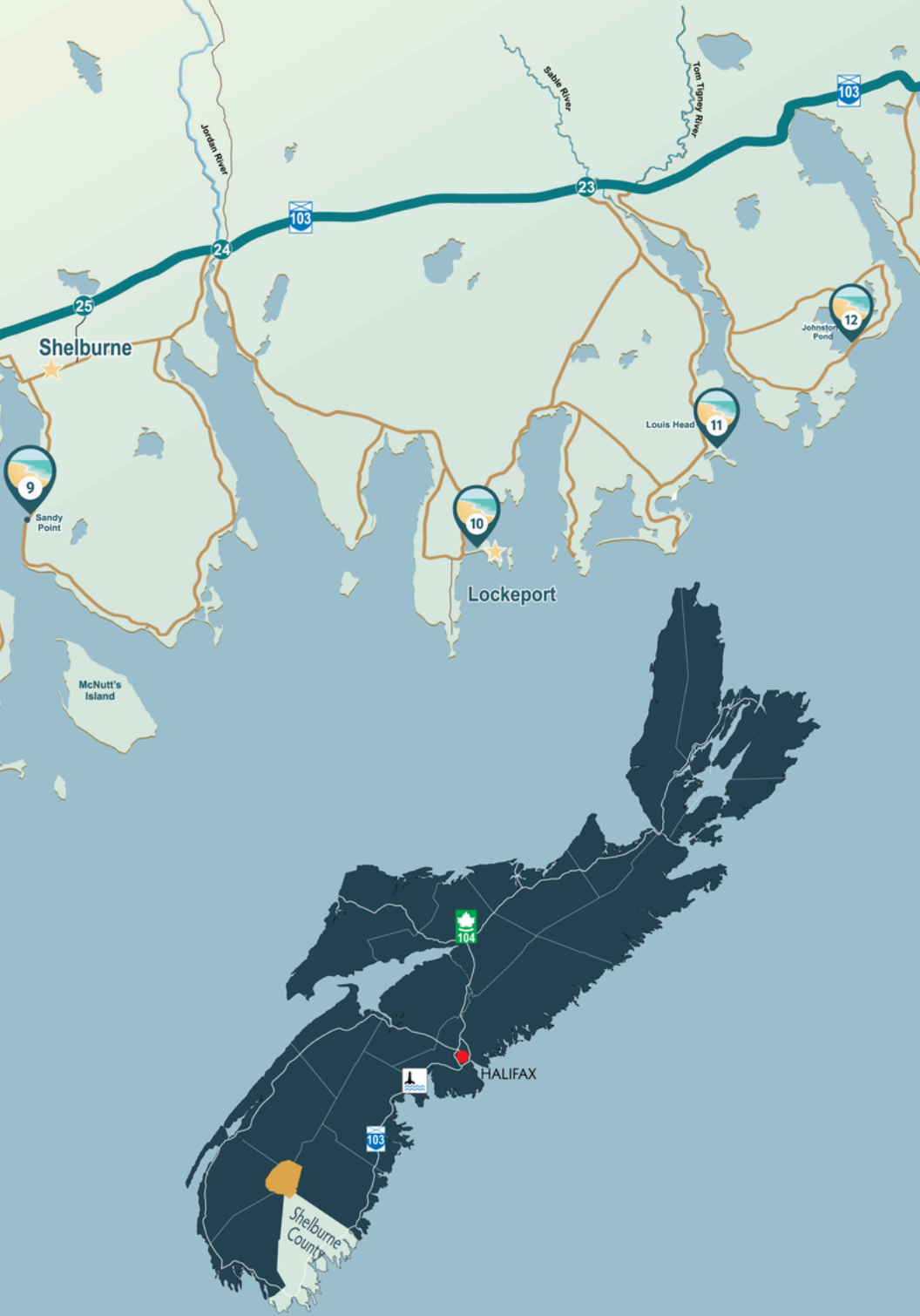
This stunning 2.5 km stretch of white sand is famous for its wide sand flats that warm in the sun at low tide, creating the perfect setting for a leisurely walk. As the tide rolls in, the warmed water makes for an ideal spot for swimming and snorkeling.



SHELBURNE COUNTY

SEA IT FOR YOURSELF





Shelburne

Sandy Point

McNutt's Island

Lockeport

Louis Head

Johnston Pond

HALIFAX

Shelburne County



CROWS NECK NATURE RESERVE

1050 Baccaro Road, East Baccaro

Crow Neck Nature Reserve protects a stunning two-kilometre stretch of sand beach, dunes, and coastal headland. This ecologically significant area is one of the most important nesting sites for the endangered Piping Plover in Nova Scotia and is especially sensitive during nesting season.

The reserve includes land transferred to the Province by the Nova Scotia Nature Trust, and it provides strong protection for the upland habitat. Please keep your dog(s) on leash, and please walk on the wet portion of the sand beach.

Amenities:

- none

Activities:

- Walking
- Photography
- Birdwatching

Parking:

- Limited Roadside parking

Access:

- Groomed path and steep cobble to beach

GPS Coordinates:

- Latitude: 43.468787
- Longitude: -65.470762

Please respect the protected wildlife and tread carefully during nesting season.



Did You Know?

Just around the corner, you'll find the Baccaro Lighthouse, a 45-foot-tall landmark rebuilt in 1934, standing as a reminder of the area's rich maritime history. Our only lighthouse located on the mainland.



ROSEWAY - ROUND BAY BEACH

480 Roseway Beach Road, Roseway

As you drive down the gravel road to Roseway Beach, the sights and sounds of the wind and surf welcome you. A local favorite for swimming and picnicking in the summer, this beautiful stretch of coastline is perfect year-round for walking, birding, stargazing, and photography—especially when the full moon glows over the bay. At low tide, the freshwater channel between Roseway Beach and Round Bay Beach becomes a walkable path, connecting these two breathtaking coastal escapes.

Amenities:

- Seasonal port-a-potty (summer months)

Activities:

- Walking
- Photography
- Birdwatching
- Picnicking
- Swimming, surfing, kayaking

Parking:

- Small parking lot

Access:

- Boardwalk and trail

GPS Coordinates:

- Latitude: 43.602604
- Longitude: -65.347727



Did You Know?

Nestled south and west of Shelburne Harbour, the twin beaches of Round Bay are divided by a freshwater channel that connects an extensive wetland ecosystem to the shore. To the west, the Nature Conservancy of Canada protects land bordering the wetlands, ensuring a pristine coastal experience.



WELKUM PARK BEACH

8946 Upper Clyde Road, Shelburne

Owned and operated by the Municipality of the District of Shelburne, Welkum Park is a charming day-use park and beach located on the shores of Welshtown Lake. It offers many accessible amenities connected by a groomed pathway from the parking lot to the beach. This hidden gem is a perfect spot for families and visitors of all ages to enjoy a refreshing swim in the calm freshwater, relax on the sandy shore, or share a picnic lunch under the summer sun.

Amenities:

- Play Structures, Natural Playspace
- Picnic tables & Gazebos
- Floating Dock
- Change Rooms
- Seasonal Port-a-Potties
- Mobi-Mat & Mobi-Chair *
- Playbin

Activities:

- Swimming, kayaking
- Picnicking

Parking:

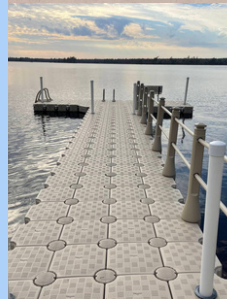
- Parking lot (accessible)

Access:

- Accessible path to beach

GPS Coordinates:

- Latitude: 43.84483
- Longitude: -65.4003



Did You Know?

Welkum Park's name is a playful twist on "Welcome" and "Welshtown" – a nod to its location!

*Pre-booking required for Mobi-Chair through Municipality of Shelburne Recreation Dept.



SANDY POINT BEACH

1586 Sandy Point, Shelburne

Standing near the mouth of Shelburne Harbour, Sandy Point Lighthouse is one of the area's most iconic photo spots, offering breathtaking views at any time of day. At low tide, visitors can walk out to the lighthouse, making for a truly unique experience. Bring a bucket and collect sand dollars, relax on the sandbar, or enjoy some delicious treats from the nearby canteen. Whether you're here for a stroll, a swim, or simply to soak in the scenery, Sandy Point is a must-visit destination in Shelburne County.

Amenities:

- Washrooms
- Canteen available during summer months

Activities:

- Walking
- Photography
- Swimming

Parking:

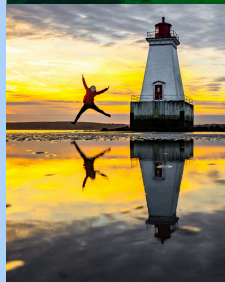
- Parking lot

Access:

- Steep cobble path

GPS Coordinates:

- Latitude: 43.692007
- Longitude: -65.32262



Did You Know?

Shelburne Harbour is one of the largest natural harbours in the world, offering deep, sheltered waters that have attracted sailors and settlers for centuries.



CRESCENT BEACH

157 Locke St, Lockeport

Stunning and protected, with a kilometer-long stretch of soft white sand, Lockeport Crescent Beach is the heart of the Lockeport Loop area. Known for its natural beauty and tranquility, this beach is a favorite for birdwatching, leisurely walks, and enjoying the ocean breeze. During the summer, it becomes a haven for large flocks of sandpipers and other shorebirds.

With 1 accessible ramp and interpretive signage detailing its rich history, Lockeport Crescent Beach is the perfect spot to relax, explore, and connect with nature.

Amenities:

- Washrooms
- Visitor Information (Beach Centre)
- Change Rooms & showers (seasonally)

Activities:

- Walking, swimming, surfing
- Photography
- Birdwatching
- Picnicking

Parking:

- Parking lot

Access:

- Accessible concrete ramp

GPS Coordinates:

- Latitude: 43.694999
- Longitude: -65.123291



Did You Know?

Crescent Beach was recognized as one of Canada's most beautiful beaches, it was even featured on the Canadian 1954 \$50 bill! Be sure to stop by the Visitor Information Centre in the Beach Centre during your visit to learn more about Lockeport and surrounding areas!



LOUIS HEAD BEACH

34 Ferry West Road, West Sable Road, Sable River

Located on the east side of the Sable River estuary, Louis Head Beach is a beloved year-round destination. This stunning 1 km stretch of white sand is a favorite for walkers and runners, while its shallow, sun-warmed waters make it a perfect summer spot for swimming and family picnics. Keep an eye out for deer and raccoon tracks, as well as migrating shorebirds that stop to feed and roost in the late summer and fall.

Amenities:

- Seasonal port-a-potty (summer months)

Activities:

- Walking
- Photography/Birdwatching
- Swimming, kayaking
- Picnicking

Parking:

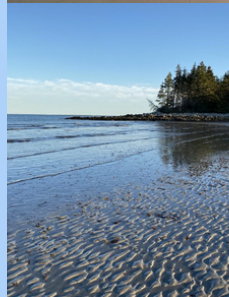
- Small parking lot

Access:

- Path to the beach

GPS Coordinates:

- Latitude: 43.750574
- Longitude: -65.014220



Did You Know?

Near Louis Head Beach, you'll find the Sable River Footbridge and Trail, a scenic spot perfect for a stroll through nature. This peaceful trail follows the river, offering beautiful views, wildlife sightings, and a chance to explore the diverse coastal ecosystem of the Sable River.



JOHNSTON'S POND BEACH

Port L'Hebert, End of MacLeans Lake Road

Located near Port l'Hebert, this sand and cobble beach is a favorite for walkers, photographers, birders, and surfers. Once divided by a deep channel, shifting sands have reshaped the area over time, covering former tidal flats and creating new dune vegetation. The Nature Conservancy of Canada manages extensive conservation lands around Johnston's Pond, protecting its diverse ecosystem. This peaceful spot is perfect for a scenic stroll, birdwatching, or simply enjoying the sights and sounds of nature.

Amenities:

- None

Activities:

- Walking
- Photography
- Birdwatching
- Surfing

Parking:

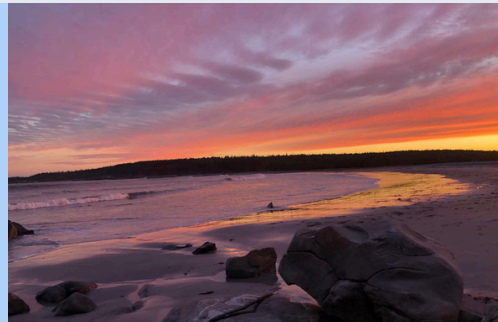
- Small parking area

Access:

- Path to the beach

GPS Coordinates:

- Latitude: 43.78324
- Longitude: -64.95486



Did You Know?

Johnston's Pond is part of the Port Joli Sector of the South Shore Important Bird Area and provides critical habitat for the endangered Piping Plover. It is also home to nesting Spotted Sandpipers, Willets, and the rare Harlequin Duck during the winter months!

ENHANCE YOUR BEACH EXPERIENCE



Borrow. Play. Return! Our **Beach Toy Libraries**, located at select beaches, offer free buckets, shovels, and more for family fun. Enjoy, share, and help keep our beaches clean!

For a safe and enjoyable beach experience, **Nova Scotia Lifeguard Services**

are on duty at Stoney Island Beach during July and August. Certified lifeguards provide supervision and water safety support – a great choice for families and swimmers of all ages.



Tides can greatly change your beach experience. At low tide, explore sandbars and search for treasures. At high tide, enjoy swimming and the waves.

Be sure to check local tide times before your visit to stay safe and make the most of your beach day.

www.tide-forecast.com/locations

(Add the location you want to visit in the search bar.)



ACCESSIBLE BEACHES



Shelburne County is committed to making our beaches welcoming and accessible for all.

- **Stoney Island Beach** – Features Mobi-Mats and Mobi-Chairs, providing easy access to both the sand and water.
- **Welkum Park** – Equipped with Mobi-Mats

and Mobi-Chairs for accessible freshwater beach access.

- **Crescent Beach** (Lockeport) – Offers an accessible ramp, making it easier to reach the beach and enjoy the shoreline.

These features help ensure that everyone can experience the beauty of our coastal and lakeside beaches.



VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRES

Barrington - 2447 Highway 3, Barrington
902-903-0494

Shelburne - Shelburne Museums by the Sea
20 Dock Street, Shelburne
902-875-3219

Lockeport - 157 Locke Street, Lockeport
902-656-3123

Local Emergency Services - 911



@exploreshelburnecounty

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